

The ETSPJ Guy

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Leiter said the state raised money to match the Hills' one-time contribution.

He said investment earnings from \$200,000 of the Hills' contribution help pay for the chair of excellence position.

Meanwhile, investment earnings from the remaining \$50,000 are used for the Alfred and Julia Hill Lecture series on Science, Society and the Mass Media.

The 16th lecture was March 25, and it

'State of News Media' report out

The fifth edition of the annual report "The State of the News Media 2008," tracing the revolution of news by the Project for Excellence in Journalism and Funded by the Pew Charitable Trusts is encompassing, and the analysis probing, according to the Center for Media Research.

The recently released study opens by saying "The state of the American news media in 2008 is more troubled than a year ago. And the problems, increasingly, appear to be different than many experts have predicted."

Online, for instance, the top 10 news Web sites, drawing mostly from old brands, command a larger share of audience than they did in the legacy media. Several trends, says the report, bear particular notice heading into 2008. A couple of these:

- News is shifting from being a product—newspaper, Web site or newscast—to becoming a service.

- A news organization and a news Web site are no longer final destinations. They move toward being gateways to other places.

Each news medium is examined in more detail, and the complete study may be freely accessed here: http://www.stateofthenewsmedia.org/2008/narrative_overview_eight.php?cat=1&media=1.

featured Alan Boyle, an award-winning science writer and senior editor for MS-NBC.com.

The Hill lecture series was established in 1989 by Hill, his wife and sister. They wanted to honor Tom and Mary Frances' parents, Alfred and Julia Hill, who founded The Oak Ridger in 1949.

"It's been very gratifying," Hill said.

(March 27, 2008)

stateofthenewsmedia.org/2008/narrative_overview_eight.php?cat=1&media=1.
(Excerpted from MediaPost's Center for Media Research)

TCOG elects Bowles; Pierce is president

Dorothy Bowles, a professor in the UTK School of Journalism and Electronic Media, has been elected secretary of the Tennessee Coalition for Open Government, based in Nashville. She is ETSPJ's representative to TCOG.

Doug Pierce, King & Ballow, Nashville, counsel to the Tennessee Association of Broadcasters, is the new president. Officers were elected in February.

Other board members are Marian Ott, League of Women Voters, Nashville; John Stern, director of the Nashville Neighborhood Alliance; Lucian Pera, partner in Adams & Reese, counsel to The Commercial Appeal, Memphis; Kent Flanagan, Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro; Steve Lake, Pulaski Citizen; Tom Griscom, Chattanooga Times Free Press; Dick Williams, Common Cause, Nashville; and W. R. (Ron) Fryar, American Hometown Publishing, Franklin.

ETSPJ Officers and Board of Directors

John Huotari, president
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Golden Press Card

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The Golden Press Card dinner and awards ceremony will bring together people from various news media who have done exceptional work. It is an annual event of the East Tennessee Chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists (ETSPJ), based in Knoxville.

The Friday, May 9, event at The Foundry in Knoxville will begin at 5:30 p.m. with a cash bar reception, and the dinner will follow at 6 p.m.

Clint Brewer, national Society of Professional Journalists president and executive editor of The City Paper, Nashville, will speak. He is the former managing editor of The Lebanon Democrat.

Awards will be presented after the speech.

Mia Rhodarmer, editor of the Monroe County Advocate & Democrat, Sweetwater, vice president of ETSPJ, is Golden Press card chairman and is in charge of the event. Working with her is Dr. Dorothy Bowles, professor in the University of Tennessee School of Journalism and Electronic Media, Knoxville, ETSPJ treasurer.

Cost of the dinner is \$20 for ETSPJ members and \$25 for non-members. ETSPJ is offering a membership benefit effective for that evening. If an eligible person joins SPJ when he or she makes reservations or on the night of the ceremony, ETSPJ will knock \$5 off the national dues, which are \$72, and waive local dues, which are \$10.

To make reservations, one should contact Rhodarmer at miarhodarmer@advocateanddemocrat.com. To submit payment, one should mail a check to Bowles at 1829 Chicadee Drive, Knoxville, TN 37919.

The contest was judged by the Cincinnati SPJ chapter. ETSPJ will judge that

Society of Professional Journalists recognizes TNJN staff with Mark of Excellence awards

BY KATIE RODGERS

The Tennessee Journalist staff is now the proud owner of eight Society of Professional Journalists regional awards. The awards were separated into five different categories, with staff members placing first in each category.

The site itself won as the Best All-Around Independent Online Student Publication in the region.

Journalists

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The East Tennessee Society of Professional Journalists will sponsor a workshop on newsroom leadership on Thursday, April 24, from 4 to 7 p.m. in the Knox Room of the News Sentinel Building in Knoxville. The leader will be Amelia Morrison Hipps, managing editor of The Lebanon Democrat. She is responsible for the news and editorial direction of it as well as the Mt. Juliet News and Hartsville Vidette.

The workshop is free to SPJ members and students and will cost \$5 for others.

At about 5:30, the group will break for sandwiches, chips and beverages, provided by ETSPJ.

For directions to the News Sentinel Building, see www.knoxnews.com/about/ or www.etspj.org. Those planning to attend must RSVP no later than the end of the day on Monday, April 21, to Elenora E. Edwards, ETSPJ secretary, at eledwards@aol.com or (865) 457-5459

Center gets grant

The Howard H. Baker Jr. Center for Public Policy has received a \$100,000 Community Enhancement Grant to create lesson plans, enhance the museum exhibit and buy technology for the classrooms at its new building on the campus of the University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

The Baker Center, now housed in Hoskins Library on campus, is scheduled to move into its new building at 1640 Cumberland Ave. later this year. A grand opening celebration is being planned for fall. The new facility will include a museum that will tell the story of how government works, using Sen. Baker's life as a backdrop. The museum also will explore modern Tennessee politics.

The site and the first place winners are now eligible for the national SPJ competitions. Winners of those awards will be announced at the national SPJ convention in September in Atlanta.

Shannon Petrie received first and second place in Online News Reporting for "Opposing abortion views displayed on pedestrian walkway" and "Public meeting displays Knoxville South Waterfront

Plans," respectively.

or (865) 385-4424. (Leave a message if there is no answer, and Edwards will return the call.) The \$5 can be paid at the workshop.

This workshop is for anyone who has been promoted recently or hopes to make the transition from reporter to editor and wants to learn a few skills before making the leap.

It is based on the following quote: "You don't manage people; you manage things. You lead people," by Admiral Grace Hooper. It deals with such issues as motivating employees, dealing with difficult employees and working with others, both up and down the management ladder.

Hipps will provide a packet of materials that attendees will want to keep for future reference.

Before joining the Democrat in May 2006, Hipps operated Elite Word Design, a freelance writing and public relations

Welcome, members

The ETSPJ chapter welcomes the following folks who have recently joined:

- Michael Grider, WNOX Radio
- Catherine Howell, WNOX Radio

John Becker, WBIR-TV anchor, is membership chairman. If interested in joining or rejoining ETSPJ, one can contact him at jbecker@wbir.com.

Open records help

Tennessee Comptroller of the Treasury John G. Morgan has announced two new resources for providing open records information and assistance to Tennessee citizens. Citizens may call toll-free (866) 831-3750 or visit www.comptroller.state.tn.us/openrecords/index.htm.

Plans," respectively.

Bridget Hardy also won two awards. She won third place in Online Feature Reporting for "'A Flea in Her Ear' Takes the UT stage." She also won first place in Online Opinion and Commentary for "Freedom of Speech or out of control?"

Amanda Wills won first place in Online Feature Reporting for "Organization strives to aid crisis in Darfur."

Katherine Leone placed second in the Online Opinion and Commentary for "Tip your Bartender."

Cliff Chartrand also had a first place win in Online Sports Reporting for "Rossi strikes in overtime."

These regional Mark of Excellence Awards were presented during SPJ's annual spring conference at Loyola University in New Orleans.

(From www.tnjin.com)

Of necessity

"You must have a free press that screams and hollers and makes your life miserable."

Colin Powell
General, U.S. Army (retired), 2004

If any ETSPJ member wants to contribute an item to any issue of Spot News or wants to provide a tip on something we should cover, please contact the editor at eledwards@aol.com or (865) 457-5459. The May issue deadline is April 25.

Spot News

2007-08 editor

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ETSPJ publishes Spot News in paper and PDF versions. To subscribe, one should contact Jean Ash, communications coordinator, at jeanash@comcast.net. The PDF version is available at www.etspj.org, the chapter Web site.

Letters to the Editor Policy: The board encourages letters to the editor of Spot News. Like letters policies at most newspapers, we ask that letters be limited to 200 words or less. They will be subject to editing for space and content. Send e-mail to ETSPJcommunications@gmail.com.